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of non-fold regions; and

a second layer coextensive with the first layer, the second layer having a second plurality of linear fold regions, each of the linear fold regions defining a corresponding crease line of the packaging container, the second layer also having a second plurality of non-fold regions,

the first layer first plurality of non-fold regions being bonded to the second layer second plurality of non-fold regions at a first bond strength greater than a bond strength of the first layer first plurality of linear fold regions and the second layer second plurality of linear fold regions, wherein when the bonded first and second layers are folded at the crease lines, the first and second layers [are separable] separate from one another at the linear fold regions.

REMARKS

This is in response to the Official Action mailed November 2, 2000, which Action was made final by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests reexamination, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the above-noted amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's withdrawn rejections as noted in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Final Action.

The Examiner has repeated pending rejections in Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the Final Action and has further issued new rejections in Paragraph 7 of the Action. With respect to these rejections, the gist of the Examiner's action is the Skjelby, U.S. Patent No. 4,206,867 either anticipates or makes obvious the claimed invention. The Examiner states further that as for the new limitation of the first and second layers being separable from one another that this too is anticipated by Skjelby. The Examiner has taken the position that the recitation of the first and second layers being "capable of" separation from one another is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to still perform and as such does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense.

Applicant has amended the pending independent claims, namely, claims 14, 19 and 27 to indicate that the first and second layers separate from one another when folded, which separation

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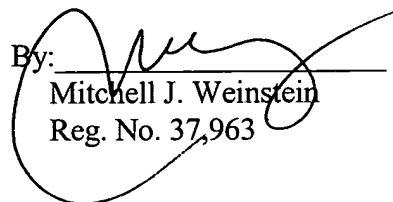
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occurs at the linear fold regions. In further reviewing the Skjelby reference, Applicant submits that there is nothing in this reference whatsoever that is directed to a laminate or a method for making the laminate or a container made from the laminate which laminate is formed of layers that are bonded to one another having a first bond strength in a non-folded region and a second lesser bond strength at the folded region. Simply put, Applicant submits that there is nothing in Skjelby that discloses such arrangement and respectfully and earnestly requests that the Examiner withdraw the bases for rejection presently pending an allow the present application on to allowance and issue.

Applicant believes that there is no fee due in connection with the present submittal. If however, there is a fee due, Applicant requests that this paper constitute any necessary petition and authorizes the Commissioner to charge any underpayment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would help expedite prosecution and allowance of the present application and address any matters that remain outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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Dated: January 3, 2001
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